

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 H-01 AS-01 /058 W
-----014868 120403Z /13

P 120301Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5703

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 8025

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, HK

SUBJECT: US-HONG KONG TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 159389

SUMMARY. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS UNHAPPY WITH THE DRAFT TEXTILE AGREEMENT BUT WILL ACCEPT IT. RATIFICATION PROCEEDINGS HERE HAVE STOPPED, NOT BECAUSE OF UNWILLINGNESS TO SIGN AGREEMENT BUT BECAUSE OF REPORTS FROM ALEX HERMAN IN WASHINGTON THAT THE U.S. SIDE IS NOT READY TO SIGN. END SUMMARY.

1. WE DELIVERED THE MESSAGE CONTAINED REFTEL TO DORWARD ON JULY 11. ALTHOUGH HE APPRECIATED THE COURTESY OF A REPLY, HE WAS NOT IMPRESSED BY ITS SUBSTANCE. HIS RESPONSE TO THE FINAL SENTENCE THAT THE AGREEMENT IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MFA WAS "HOW? ALL I CAN SEE BETWEEN THE LINES (OF THE MFA) ARE WHITE SPACES." HE WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT DID NOT INTEND TO RENEGE ON THE AGREEMENT BUT FELT THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS SETTING A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT, WHICH IN EFFECT WOULD SAY TO THE EEC THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE MFA BECAUSE ITS PROVISIONS NEED NOT BE HONORED.

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2. DORWARD WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WAS CONFUSED BY REPORTS FROM ALEX HERMAN THAT INTER-AGENCY NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED, THAT THERE MAY BE ADDITIONS OR CHANGES IN THE DRAFT TO COVER ITEMS WHICH WERE THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN AGREED BUT WERE NOT, AND THAT

STATE DEPARTMENT LAWYERS WANT TO MAKE "SUBSTANTIAL REVISIONS" IN THE DRAFT TEXT. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS INSTRUCTED PETER TSAO IN GENEVA TO REFER ANY PROPOSED CHANGES OR REVISIONS TO HONG KONG. MEANWHILE, DORWARD HAS STOPPED THE RATIFICATION PROCESS ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT SEEMS POINTLESS TO CLEAR THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WITHIN GOVERNMENT AND THE INDUSTRY AND THEN TO HAVE TO GO BACK WITH REVISED LANGUAGE.

3. DORWARD WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF THE STATUS OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE U.S. SIDE AND CONFIRMATION OF HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SHOULD WAIT FOR PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE TEXT BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE RATIFICATION PROCESS.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HONGK08025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770246-1177
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770768/aaaacgui.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b813e76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 159389
Retention: 0
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Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1892631
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-HONG KONG TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, HK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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